



US Army Corps
of Engineers®
New York District

Joseph G. Minish

Passaic River Waterfront Park and Historic Area, Newark, NJ

Flood Damage Reduction

FACT SHEET

DESCRIPTION: The Passaic River Waterfront Park and Historic Area project is located along the west bank of the Passaic River between Bridge and Brill Streets in the City of Newark, New Jersey. This reach of the Passaic River is eroded, deteriorated and environmentally degraded due to past heavy commercial and industrial use and flooding. As documented in the Design Memorandum for the project, the project is proposed to have three phases. The first phase will provide 6,000 feet of new bulkhead, 3,200 feet of restored riverbank, and wetlands creation. The second phase adds a 9,200-foot waterfront walkway and the third phase adds park facilities, plazas, and landscaping. Links to the Arts Center, Riverbank Park, and other sites will also be provided. The project will reduce flooding and erosion and provide environmental restoration, recreation, and economic development benefits. In light of the renewal of the commercial downtown area of Newark near the Passaic River, the project area is viewed as an environmental resource to be restored.

AUTHORIZATION: The project was authorized in the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 1990 (Public Law 101-640) as an element of the Passaic River Flood Damage Reduction Project on November 28, 1990, modified in the Water Resources Development Act of 1992 (Public Law 102-580) by extending the project area, and further modified in the Water Resources Development Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-303).

STATUS: The final Design Memorandum and Environmental Assessment were completed in May 1996. Plans and specifications for the first phase have been prepared. The Project Cooperation Agreement for Phase I was executed in May 1999. A total of four construction contracts are anticipated for the Phase I Project. The first construction contract at Center Street was completed in September of 2000. A second construction contract from Center Street to Penn Station was completed in March 2003. The third construction contract from Center Street to Bridge Street is currently being redesigned to minimize handling of contaminated materials in the Passaic River. The fourth construction contract from Penn Station to Brill Street is under construction. Additional appropriations will be required to complete the first phase.

The City of Newark will act as the non-Federal sponsor for Phases II and III as per their letter of March 7, 2000. Because of the recent progress with the Phase I, efforts to complete the Phase II/III design are underway; and conceptual plans will be completed in the fall of 2002. The objective of Phases II and III of the project is to construct an urban park and river walk that extends along the Passaic River from Bridge Street to Brill Street in Newark, New Jersey. The Phase II/III effort will focus on developing a more detailed design of the park elements outlined in our 1996 Design Report and will incorporate the standards of the Newark community along with the Cities December 1999 Passaic Riverfront Report. A Project Cooperation Agreement negotiation and design efforts are currently underway.

PROJECT COST:

	Phase I	Phase II & Phase III
Estimated Federal Cost	\$27,975,000	\$31,125,000
Estimated Non-Federal Cost	\$ 9,325,000	\$10,375,000
Total	\$37,300,000	\$41,500,000

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Please visit project web page: <http://www.nan.usace.army.mil/business/prjlinks/flooding/minish/index.htm>